

APPLICANT FEEDBACK SUMMARY

2013 AmeriCorps State and National Grant Competition

Legal Applicant: Hoopa Valley Tribe and Hoopa Forestry Division
Program Name: Hoopa Tribal Civilian Community Corps

Application ID: 13TN147086

For the purpose of enhancing our programs by improving the quality and quantity of applications to the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), we are providing specific feedback regarding the strengths and weaknesses of this application. These comments are not meant to represent a comprehensive assessment; rather the analysis represents those elements that had the greatest bearing on the rating of the application. Please note that this feedback consists of summary comments from more than one reviewer. For this reason, some of the comments may seem to be inconsistent or contradictory. Comments are not representative of all of the information used in the final funding decision.

Reviewers' Summary Comments:

- (+) The applicant provides clear evidence of the community problems in terms of numbers and percentages on the Hoopa Reservation, among the various California Tribes, and in Tribes across the country.
- (+) The applicant documents economic distress, low income, low educational levels, lack of adequate housing and health care and social problems including lack of tribal identity, alcohol and drug addiction.
- (+) The applicant clearly describes how the targeted communities are selected and also describes some to the natural disasters that have occurred in other states and how the Members have been involved in assisting with the disasters. The applicant also describes a comprehensive process in which other Tribes can request assistance.
- (+) The applicant requests 30 full-time, primarily Native American Members, which is appropriate for the scope of the program. Seventy-nine percent of the Members will be classified as at risk. The applicant clearly describes the compensation the Members will receive and the number of hours they will commit to environmental stewardship and conservation, child mentoring, public safety, minor construction projects, cultural preservation, and disaster recovery throughout tribal lands and rural areas.
- (+) The recruitment of the Members will be staggered, creating a year-round corps and the applicant well describes the process for replacing Members throughout the year as they drop out or are dismissed.
- (+) The activities and interventions of the AmeriCorps members are evidence-based from organizational experience and are well described and relate directly the identified problems and needs.
- (+) The proposal includes an effective description of what the organization will accomplish that it would not otherwise accomplish with the support of Members- -for example, the limited number of volunteers in rural communities that often get burned out and the current lack of capacity.
- (+) The proposal successfully describes the changes expected by the end of the three-year grant cycle. The applicant

envisions that 63% of Members will be employed, that five veteran families will receive Corporation of National and Community Service (CNCS) support, and that 80% of the projects will improve their at-risk ecosystem.

(+) The applicant organization provides a clear description for how its proposed intervention will have measurable impact. For example, the applicant provides a discussion for how it has measured impact previously and how it has derived the proposed numbers to measure future performance.

(-) There is a need for more detail on the accommodations and support the Members will receive while on assignment outside the Tribal Civilian Community Corps (TCCC) Residential Campus.

(-) There is a need for more detail and assessment benchmarks that the Members and the interventions, both on the reservation and off site, will have on the goals identified as needs.

(-) When describing the population to be served, the applicant refers to a sub-group and fails to connect this sub-group to the original community problem.

(-) The applicant provides only minimal examples of specific proposed Member activities.